

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1 and 5-9 and ADD new claim 10 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A full text search system, comprising:

a plurality of search processing apparatuses ~~in which~~ receiving instructions related to locations of search-target character string data and character string search conditions ~~are instructed, and~~ outputting search results ~~responding~~ responsive to the instructions ~~are accordingly outputted; and~~

a search integration unit ~~in which~~ having search-target character string data ~~is divided into a group of character string records and allocated to one or more of the plurality of search processing apparatuses, given~~ correspondingly transmitting character string search conditions ~~are transmitted to each of the search processing apparatuses as search instructions, and~~ integrating search results ~~are received from each of the search processing apparatuses and are integrated; and further comprising:~~

an update temporary memory unit ~~which~~ temporarily ~~stores~~ storing new character string records to update the search-target character string data; and

an update record search instruction unit ~~in which~~ transmitting the new character string records stored in the update temporary memory unit ~~are instructed to any one of the search processing apparatuses determined in advance as a part of the search-target character string data.~~

2. (ORIGINAL) The full text search system according to claim 1, further comprising:

an update result reflection unit in which old records before being updated corresponding to the new records stored in the update temporary memory unit is deleted from the search-target character string data, and the new records are incorporated into the search-target character string data.

3. (ORIGINAL) The full text search system according to claim 2, further comprising:
a search result receiving time storing unit in which after the search integration unit transmits search instructions to the plurality of search processing apparatuses, the time when search results are received from each search processing apparatus is stored; and
a breakdown search processing apparatus judgement unit in which the search processing apparatus which cannot receive search results within a preset time from the search result receiving time received first which is stored in the search result receiving time storing unit is judged to be a defective apparatus.

4. (ORIGINAL) The full text search system according to claim 3, wherein when the breakdown search processing apparatus judgement unit judges the search processing apparatus to be defective, the search integration unit revokes all the search results transmitted from the plurality of search processing apparatuses, and after incorporating the new records stored in the update temporary memory unit into the search-target character string data by instructing the update result reflection unit, the search integration unit divides the search-target character string data and allocates the divided data to usable search processing apparatuses except the search processing apparatuses which are judged to be defective and the search processing apparatuses which have been instructed to execute search processing by the update record search instruction unit, and instructs the usable search processing apparatuses to execute search.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A full text search program which ~~makes~~causes a computer ~~realize to execute operations to function as a full text search system, said operations~~ comprising:

causing a plurality of search processing apparatuses ~~in which to receive instruction related to~~ locations of the search-target character string data and character string search conditions are instructed, and to accordingly output search results ~~responding responsive to the instructions are accordingly outputted~~; and

causing a search integration unit ~~in which having~~ search-target character string data is divided into a group of character string records and allocated to one or more of the plurality of search processing apparatuses, ~~given to correspondingly transmit~~ character string search conditions ~~are transmitted to~~ each of the search processing apparatuses as search instructions,

and to integrate search results ~~are received from each of the search processing apparatuses and are integrated; and which further makes the computer realize both~~

causing an update temporary memory unit ~~which to temporarily stores-store~~ new character string records to update the search-target character string data; and

causing an update record search instruction unit ~~in which to transmit~~ the new character string records stored in the update temporary memory unit ~~are instructed to any one of the search processing apparatuses determined in advance as a part of the search-target character string data.~~

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable storage medium storing ~~programs which make~~ a program to cause a computer to execute operations related to a full text search system, comprising:

causing a plurality of search processing apparatuses ~~in which to receive instructions related to~~ locations of the search-target character string data and character string search conditions ~~are instructed, and to output~~ search results responding responsive to the instructions ~~are accordingly outputted; and~~

causing a search integration unit ~~in which having~~ search-target character string data ~~is divided into a group of character string records to have the character string records allocated and allocated to one or more of the plurality of search processing apparatuses, given to correspondingly transmit~~ character string search conditions ~~are transmitted to each of the search processing apparatuses as search instructions, and to integrate~~ search results ~~are received from each of the search processing apparatuses and are integrated; and which further makes the computer execute both~~

causing an update temporary memory unit ~~which to temporarily stores-store~~ new character string records to update the search-target character string data; and

causing an update record search instruction unit ~~in which to transmit~~ the new character string records stored in the update temporary memory unit ~~are instructed to any one of the search processing apparatuses determined in advance as a part of the search-target character string data.~~

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A full text search system having a search integration server in which receiving instructions related to locations of search-target character string data and character string search conditions are instructed; comprising:

a plurality of search processing servers ~~which output~~ outputting search results ~~responding responsive~~ to the instructions ~~are connected~~ via a network; the search-target character string data ~~is being~~ divided into a group of character string records and allocated to one or more of the plurality of search processing servers; ~~given and the~~ character string search conditions ~~are being~~ transmitted to each of the search processing servers as search instructions; and search results ~~are received~~ from each of the search processing servers ~~and are being~~ integrated; ~~and which comprises~~

an update temporary memory unit ~~which temporarily stores~~ storing new character string records to update the search-target character string data; and

an update record search instruction unit ~~in which transmitting~~ the new character string records stored in the update temporary memory unit ~~are instructed~~ to any one of the search processing apparatuses ~~determined~~ in advance as a part of the search-target character string data.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A full text search method, comprising: ~~for~~ dividing search-target character string data into a group of character string records; allocating the divided character string records to one or more of a plurality of search processing apparatuses which are given locations of search-target character string data and character string search conditions and ~~outputs~~ output search results ~~responding responsive~~ to the given locations and conditions;

transmitting given character string search conditions to each of the search processing apparatuses as search instructions, receiving search results from each of the search processing apparatuses, and integrating the search results, ~~the method comprising:~~

~~storing temporarily~~ storing, when updating the search-target character string data, new character string records to update the search-target character string data; and

instructing the stored character string records to any one of the search processing apparatuses determined in advance as a part of the search-target character string data.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A full text search method, comprising:
receiving a plurality of search requests from terminals requesting to search ~~a search~~
target data having character strings;
executing the plurality of search requests from the terminals in parallel via a plurality of
search processing apparatuses; and
automatically adding new data to the ~~search~~-target data based on at least one request
from at least one of the terminals while the plurality of search requests are processed, wherein
the ~~search~~-target data is logically divided into regions to correspond to the plurality of search
processing apparatuses and the regions are allocated to the plurality of search processing
apparatuses for executing searches based on the plurality of search requests.

10. (NEW) A full text search method using search processing systems to process
search requests from terminals, comprising:
dividing search target data into sets of character strings for search processing systems
corresponding to the sets of character strings, in response to a search request from a requesting
terminal;
executing a search by the search processing systems in parallel with new target data
added as needed to the sets of character strings by the search processing systems during the
search without interrupting the search; and
transmitting results of the search from the search processing systems to the requesting
terminal.